

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

*Foundation Valiant* to the site, and had the tug *Foundation Vigilant* available. In order to make an attempt to salvage the ship, Lloyd's open form had to be signed by the captain of the oil tanker. Did the captain of the tanker agree to sign this form so that an attempt could be made to salvage the *Arrow* by putting a line on board the ship?

**Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, I am afraid I cannot answer this question of my own knowledge. I will look into it immediately and advise the hon. member as quickly as possible.

**Mr. Crouse:** While the minister is looking into that aspect of the question, will he also indicate or ascertain if possible why permission to lighten the *Arrow* was refused by the captain of the tanker when the tanker *Imperial Acadia* arrived on the scene at midnight, Tuesday?

## WRECKING OF TANKER "ARROW"—NATURE OF INQUIRY

**Mr. Robert McCleave (Halifax-East Hants):** Mr. Speaker, I wish to direct this question to the Minister of Transport since he was not in the House the other night when I took part in the late show. Will the inquiry ordered into this disaster be conducted by somebody completely divorced from the Department of Transport and from the oil shipping industry?

**Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Transport):** Mr. Speaker, we are looking into what is the most appropriate method. I agree with the hon. member that it should be an independent inquiry, and whatever is the best method to achieve this, that we will use. May I also apologize to the hon. member for not being here for the late show. It was due to an error in the late show notification procedures, as I think he knows.

**Mr. J. P. Nowlan (Annapolis Valley):** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. Since the minister did not make a statement in the House today on the reorganization of his department, will he consider making a statement in the House at the earliest moment, say tomorrow or this week, on all aspects of this *Arrow* tragedy, including whether the reorganization of the department will help the Department of Transport respond to such unfortunate accidents in a way that will prevent damage to our coasts?

**Mr. Jamieson:** I shall be glad to make a statement later when the situation is clear, Mr. Speaker.

[Mr. Crouse.]

**Mr. Nowlan:** A further supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. I wonder if the minister could include in his statement the relationship, if any, that there has been between the National Research Council and the Defence Research Council on the whole question of how oil pollutes water and how to get rid of it.

## WRECKING OF TANKER "ARROW"—DAMAGE SUFFERED BY FISHERMEN

**Hon. Robert L. Stanfield (Leader of the Opposition):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the Minister of Fisheries. I should like to ask whether he and his department are pursuing any course to assess the damage suffered by the fishermen as a result of oil escaping from the *Arrow*, and whether the minister is considering any recourse against those responsible for the damage with a view to the government and the fishermen being recouped for the damage likely to be suffered?

**Hon. Jack Davis (Minister of Fisheries):** The answer is yes, Mr. Speaker. Mr. John Daziel, of the fisheries department is acting as coordinator of a technical group on ecological control in the area looking into the damage to marine life. We are also actively looking at the possibility of recovering costs which may be suffered by the fishermen in the area.

**Mr. Thomas M. Bell (Saint John-Lancaster):** A supplementary question, Mr. Speaker. May I ask the minister if there was in fact a contingency plan to deal with the adverse effect of oil pollution?

**Mr. Davis:** I am informed, Mr. Speaker, that contingency plans have been under discussion and in the process of development for about 12 months, under the chairmanship of the Department of Transport.

**Mr. Bell:** A further supplementary, Mr. Speaker. May I take it from the minister that there were not, in fact, contingency plans as intimated by his Parliamentary Secretary on January 14?

**Mr. Davis:** Mr. Speaker, I understand there were contingency plans under development and meetings were being held as recently as three weeks ago to finalize these plans.

## LABOUR RELATIONS

## FORT GARRY HOTEL STRIKE—USE OF OTHER PERSONNEL

**Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre):** Mr. Speaker, I have a question for